



Docket No.: 220215US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

Naoki USUI, et al. :

ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

SERIAL NO: 10/087,843 :

FILED: MARCH 5, 2002 :

FOR: ANION REGULATOR FOR RUMINANTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown in the marked-up copy attached to read as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17, with the following text:

B

A preparation using inorganic salts such as  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ ,  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and  $\text{CaSO}_4$  as the anion regulator does, however, result sometimes in decreased intake of feed added with such preparation, because such inorganic salts per se are less palatable to cattle [HOARD'S DAIRYMAN (1990), Apr., 344]. The stage before parturition is an especially important preparative period for the stage of lactation after parturition. Decreases in feed intake during such an important stage results not only in reduced efficiency of milk production but also in

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